

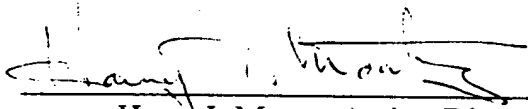
**BEFORE THE OFFICE OF ENROLLMENT AND DISCIPLINE
UNITED STATE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

LIMITED RECOGNITION UNDER 37 CFR § 10.9(b)

Cornelis J. Wheeler is hereby given limited recognition under 37 CFR § 10.9(b) as an employee of Townsend & Townsend &Crew to prepare and prosecute patent applications wherein the patent applicant is the client of Townsend & Townsend &Crew, and the attorney or agent of record in the applications is a registered practitioner who is a member of Townsend & Townsend &Crew. This limited recognition shall expire on the date appearing below, or when whichever of the following events first occurs prior to the date appearing below: (i) Cornelis J. Wheeler ceases to lawfully reside in the United States, (ii) Cornelis J. Wheeler's employment with Townsend & Townsend &Crew ceases or is terminated, or (iii) Cornelis J. Wheeler ceases to remain or reside in the United States on an H-1 visa.

This document constitutes proof of such recognition. The original of this document is on file in the Office of Enrollment and Discipline of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Expires: December 15, 2000



Harry I. Moatz, Acting Director
Office of Enrollment and Discipline

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
(415) 576-0200

Attorney Docket No. 15508-002510US

In re application of: D. BRUCE MODESITT et al.

Date: November 07, 2000

Application No.: 09/651,344

Filed: August 29, 2000

Group Art Unit: unassigned

For: ARTICULATING SUTURING DEVICE AND METHOD

THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

I hereby certify that this is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Signed: 

Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the following documents:

1. Second Preliminary Amendment; and
2. Postcard

If any extension of time is needed, then this response should be considered a petition therefor.
The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

(Col. 1)	(Col. 2)	(Col. 3)
CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA
TOTAL * 39	MINUS ** 20	= 19
INDEP. * 4	MINUS *** 3	= 1
[] FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM		

SMALL ENTITY			OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY	
RATE	ADDIT. FEE	OR	RATE	ADDIT. FEE
x \$9.00 =			x \$18.00 =	\$342.00
x \$40.00 =			x \$80.00 =	\$80.00
+ \$135.00 =			+ \$270.00 =	
TOTAL ADDIT. FEE		OR	TOTAL	\$422.00

- * If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.
 ** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.
 *** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, then write "3" in this space. The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

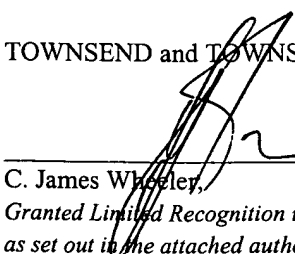
[] No fee is due.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 20-1430 as follows:

- [X] Claims fee \$ 422.00
 [X] Any additional fees associated with this paper or during the pendency of this application.

2 extra copies of this sheet are enclosed.

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP


C. James Whalley,
Granted Limited Recognition under 37 CFR §10.9(b)
as set out in the attached authorization

RECEIVED
NOV 16 2000
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 15508-002510US

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

On November 7, 2000

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: [Signature]



Free/B
#3
CH 11/18/00
Full

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

D. BRUCE MODESITT et al.

Application No.: 09/651,344

Filed: August 29, 2000

For: ARTICULATING SUTURING
DEVICE AND METHOD

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel ~~claims~~ 1-2, 12-14, 40 and 42-43; and add new claims 48-84. Note that claims 26-27 remain unchanged, but are reproduced for the examiners convenience and reference.

1-2.	CANCELED.
3-11.	PREVIOUSLY CANCELED.
12-14.	CANCELED.
45-52, 54	PREVIOUSLY CANCELED.

11/20/2000 THARGRO 00000003 201430 055234

01 FC:103 396.00 CH
02 FC:104 270.00 CH

RECEIVED
NOV 16 2000
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700